Chengalore Road in the Mukundapuram Taluk have been handed over to the Public Works Department; if so, when?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—Yes. On 3rd Vrischigam 1108.

Appointments made and recommended by Mr. C. G. Herbert.

171. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar—Will the Government be pleased to place on the table of the House a list of the names of persons not in the service of the Government, who were (a) appointed by or (b) recommended by (separately) Mr. C. G. Herbert, the Diwan of Cochin, after he took charge up-to-date, with the names of officers, the office to which each of them was appointed with their pay and their qualifications and the caste or class to which each of them belongs?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a) and (b). Two lists containing all the available information are placed on the Council table. (*Appendix VIII*).

Provision of allotment for opening road from the Nurnee Vannamada and Kunnamkattupathy Anecut.

172. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether there was provision for opening a road from the Nurnee Vannamada road to the Kunnamkattupathy Anecut in 1107 budget;

(2) was the work done;

(3) if not, why was it abandoned and why it has not been provided for in the current year's budget;

(4) whether in view of the fact that this was omitted in the current year's budget, the Government will be pleased to do the work this year providing for the work in the revised budget?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.— (1) Yes.

(2) No.

(3) The allotment in 1107 budget was utilised for meeting the expenditure on account of more urgent works. Due to lack of funds it was not possible to provide for the work in the 1108 budget.

(4) Owing to financial stringency it may not be possible to provide for it in the revised budget of 1108.

The Shernally bridge work.

173. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) when was the Shernally bridge on the new Nelliampathy Ghat road completed;

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(2) when was it check-measured finally and by whom;

(3) what was the amount of the revised estimate, if any;

(4) what was the original estimate amount;

(5) what was the value of work done without making any tender deductions;

(6) were there cracks in the walls of the bridge, were the cracks grouted, the earth behind scooped out and filling made with coursed dry stone works;

(7) when was the coursed dry stone work so used paid for; as backing to the walls or as revetment walls;

(8) are the cracks grouted yet showing signs of cleavage; were the cracks due to bad work or bad estimating; if so, who are responsible for these; was the matter reported by the Assistant Engineer to the Chief Engineer; if so, has the Chief Engineer examined the work from bottom to top;

(9) what actions, if any, have been taken against person or persons responsible;

(10) was a sheet rock very near the bridge blasted for getting stones for the dry packing behind masonry walls of the bridge;

(11) was such blasting necessary for road;

(12) whether it is a fact that the contractor has been paid for blasting as well as for dry packing work in full ?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—(1) In Karkadagam 1106.

(2) 3rd March 1932 (20th Kumbham 1107). By Chief Engineer Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.

(3) There was no revised estimate.

(4) Rs. 8,820.

(5) Rs. 9,153.

(6) There were no cracks. A portion of the rough stone dry wall return failed during its construction owing to settlement of newly filled up earth. This portion was got reconstructed at contractor's cost after removing the filled up earth. No filling was done with coursed dry stone work.

(7) No such work was done or paid for. Latter part of the question is not clear.

(8) Please see answer to No. 6 above. A report was made by the Assistant Engineer regarding the failure of the rough stone dry wall referred to in sub-division 6. Yes.

(9) Please see answer to No. 6.

(10) Yes. The whole place is full of such sheet rocks. The bridge itself stands on sheet rock, and the contractor has either blasted or wedged out stones from everywhere.

(11) No. Blasting done for stones was in places other than for widening road.

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(12) Yes. Packing is done mostly at first and blasting for widening in specifically measured and marked places. The locality being steep the blasted stones fly down to great depths and they cannot be recovered for work.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Sub-division (8)—Are the cracks yet showing signs of cleavage?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—There were no cracks.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Am I to presume that the contractor has not made use of any of the blasted rocks?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—That is answered under (12). 'The locality being steep the blasted stones fly down to great depths and they cannot be recovered for work.'

The Alur bridge work.

174. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) what was the original amount of the estimate for the Alur bridge;

(b) what was the amount of the revised estimate;

(c) what was the excess over the original estimate due to;

(d) was it an additional ventway provided at the left end;

(e) did not one M. Sankaran Nayar agree first to safeguard the left end;

(f) was not the site changed during construction;

(g) was not the site first fixed better for a bridge from engineering point of view;

(h) why was the site changed;

(i) is it on account of the change of the site that the additional expenditure had to be incurred?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—(a) Rs. 8,000.

(b) There was no revised estimate. The deviation statement amounts to Rs. 10,489—9—0.

(c) The 7 per cent excess according to the accepted tender, excess in the foundation work and the construction of an additional ventway.

(d) One additional ventway was provided.

(e) Yes; but no protection was necessary.

(f) The present site was fixed before starting the construction.

(g) There is very little difference between the two sites.

(h) Because the present site was in line with the existing Panchayat road and it is more convenient for the people of the locality.

(i) No. The causes that gave rise to the additional expenditure have been given already.

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